



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-5000

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

Dear Executive Director:

Re: Disaster Housing Assistance Program - Katrina(DHAP-Katrina)
Transitional Closeout Plan
Grant Agreement Amendment Packet

On behalf of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), thank you for your tremendous efforts in providing housing and case management services to our Disaster Housing Assistance Program-Katrina (DHAP-Katrina) families over the last 18 months.

I am writing to inform you of a six-month Transitional Closeout Plan agreed upon by FEMA and HUD for families whose rental assistance under the DHAP-Katrina would otherwise end as of March 1, 2009, and have not been transitioned to HUD's Housing Choice Voucher program or any other federal or state housing assistance program. Under this initiative, PHAs will make transitional rental payments (TRP) on behalf of eligible families to participating landlords for a period not to exceed six months commencing March 1, 2009 and ending August 31, 2009.

HUD is asking your agency to participate in this six-month transitional plan by executing a DHAP-Katrina Transitional Closeout Plan grant agreement amendment. If you elect to participate in the closeout plan, HUD is requesting that you sign the grant agreement no later than Tuesday, March 2, 2009 and fax it to:

US Department of Housing and Urban Development
Attention: Mr. David Fleischman
Fax: (202) 708-0690;
or you may scan the signed grant agreement and email it to:
DHAP_GA@HUD.GOV.

As you know, all existing grant agreements between FEMA and Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) are currently scheduled to expire February 28, 2009. All Disaster Rent Subsidy Contracts between PHAs and participating landlords also end on February 28, 2009.

Given the short period of time to implement this transition, you will not have sufficient time to execute a new or amended Disaster Rent Subsidy Contract (DRSC) with existing landlords before March 1, 2009. Therefore FEMA, through an interagency agreement (IAA) amendment between HUD and FEMA, is authorizing HUD and its PHAs to make or tender transitional payments to landlords without an executed DRSC and before effecting other binding agreements between PHAs and landlords. Details on the transitional close-out plan can be found on the DHAP-Katrina website at www.hud.gov/pih.

If you have questions regarding this letter or other DHAP-Katrina related issues, please contact us at DHAP_RG@HUD.GOV or call us using the toll-free DHAP-Katrina Referral Call Center at (866) 373-9509 or (866) 785-3239; or by visiting our website at www.hud.gov/pih